

Department of Public Expenditure and Reform
Management Board Meeting on 2 December 2019

Attendance

Minister Donohoe, Secretary General, Mr Downes, Mr Moloney, Ms Coleman, Dr Fallon-Byrne, Mr Lowry, Mr Cagney, Mr Quinn, Mr Feeney, Ms Godkin, Ms O'Reilly, Mr Menton, Ms McGirr, Ms Sweeney, Mr Brophy, Mr Sheedy, Ms O'Connor Ms Codd

Apologies

1. Discussion with the Minister on Divisional Priorities to end Q1 2020

Minister Donohoe attended the Management Board meeting to discuss divisional priorities to end Q1 2020. The divisional priorities were outlined as follows.

Dr Fallon Byrne provided an overview of Reform Office priorities, including Public Service Reform with a particular focus on Our Public Service 2020, Innovation and the preparations for the transposition of the Open Data and Reuse of Public Sector Information Directive. Work on Civil Service Renewal will continue with the 10 Year Plan for the Civil Service, delivery of the current Civil Service Renewal programme and the completion of the organisational capability reviews of DHPLG and DCRD. The focus for Government Reform will include the establishment of the Data Governance Board and the preparations for the transposition of the EU Whistleblowing Directive.

Mr Cagney addressed the priorities of the Civil Service HR Division, including the Civil Service Regulation (Amendment) Bill, the planned procurement in Q1 2020 of the Digital Learning system, the launch of phase two of the Human Resource Operating Model, Workforce Planning and the redesign and roll-out of tranche three of the Senior Public Service and Principal Officer Talent Management Programmes.

Mr Lowry set out the priorities of the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer, including the Digital Government Agenda, GovTech, the implementation of the Data Sharing and Governance Act and the Public Service Data Strategy, the continued roll-out of Build to Share and the next phase of ICT Professionalisation.

Mr Quinn provided an overview of the Office of Government Procurement's priorities, which include on the Procurement Reform side the refinement of the Procurement Model, establishing appropriate sectoral delivery strategies, progressing the Capital Works Medium Term Strategy and refining the design of the Commercial Skills Academy. Work will continue in the area of Frameworks, Mini and Bespoke competitions and the New Operating Model pilot. Additionally the OGP propose to conduct an organisational reviewing of the procurement reform programme and further development of the Empower People Strategy. Brexit preparedness and further digitalisation is also planned.

Mr Menton set out the priorities of the Public Service Pay and Pensions Division, including the management of the Public Service Stability Agreement, preparation for a successor pay

agreement, the Single Public Service Pension Scheme and legislative amendments on a range of pay and pensions issues.

Mr Downes addressed the priorities of the Expenditure Policy and Reporting Division for Q1 2020 including setting the basis for Estimates 2021-23, consolidating progress on disciplined expenditure management, the delivery of capital projects and the new Public Spending Code which it is hoped will be launched shortly. The Expenditure Policy and Reporting Division also hope to progress an ambitious reform of financial reporting and accounting reform.

Mr Moloney provided an overview of the Labour Market and Enterprise Policy Division's priorities including the initial scoping and drafting of Spending Review papers, the monitoring and evaluation of issues arising in the Housing and Social Protections Votes, the operation of Data Centres and progressing the review of the Minister's role in respect of flood relief schemes.

Ms Coleman provided an overview of the priorities of the Expenditure Management, EU and Audit Division including Cohesion Policy post 2020, Climate Action, sectoral expenditure policy issues and finalisation of the 2020 annual plans of the Internal Audit team.

Ms O'Reilly set out the priorities of the HR Strategy Unit in relation to People@PER Strategy 2017–2020 and the internal recruitment strategy. In the area of Diversity and Inclusion the HR Strategy Unit will evaluate and embed learnings from the recent Inclusive Leadership Training. Work will also continue on the skills for the future programmes and the HR Business Partners will engage with all divisions to support the development and delivery of the 2020 Business Plans.

Mr Feeney addressed the priorities of the Corporate Office in relation to Strategic Planning and Risk Management, the ongoing preparations of new ways of working such as the roll-out of eRisk, eFOI and eCabinet. Work will also continue on the coordination and support of the implementation of the Department's Knowledge Management Policy and the Department's Financial Management including the preparation of the 2019 Appropriation Account. A comprehensive training programme to enhance FOI management in the Department will commence in January 2020.

The Minister welcomed the updates and engaged with the Board on the full range of priorities that had been set out and the key issues arising in respect of these.

Next Meeting – Monday, 9 December at 11.00am